

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

Applicants herein acknowledge the restriction requirement in the above-referenced application. Claims 1 through 41 are currently pending in the application. The Office has identified the following groups of claims as being drawn to separate inventions:

Group I – claims 1-14 and 25-39, drawn to a method, classified in class 438, subclass 758; and

Group II – claims 15-24, 40 and 41, drawn to a device, classified in class 257, subclass 1+.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-14 and 25-39, without traverse.

Please Note Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statements filed with the Office on September 19, 2003 and January 8, 2004, and respectfully request that the documents or other information referenced therein be made of record in the present application and that initialed copies of the PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08A forms be returned to the undersigned attorney evidencing same.

Should any of the documents, or portions thereof, be unavailable to the Examiner for any reason, please contact the undersigned attorney, who will supply same immediately by facsimile or other suitable method of delivery.

CONCLUSION

An early Office Action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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